101. Suggestions for the better working of the Town Improvement Committees.

Mr. P. Chellaswami Chinnananja Pandyan (Member, T. I. C., Shencottah) urged that the Government grant to the Committees was not sufficient and that it should be given according to the requirements of each town. He then made the following suggestions:—

(1) Town Improvement Committees should be classified into Minor and Major T. I. C's. and Municipalities.

(2) Liberal grants should be given to the T. I. C's. which really required help in making the towns more sanitary.

(3) Loans at a low rate of interest should, whenever necessary, be given to the T. I. C's. for carrying out big sanitary works.

(4) Hygiene should be taught as a compulsory subject in the Vernacular schools.

(5) All towns should be re-surveyed.

(6) Minimum educational and tax qualifications should be prescribed for membership.

(7) The existing section of the Regulation should be amended so that a member who absented himself for three consecutive meetings without sufficient cause should be made to lose his seat on the Committee.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

102. Improvement of the town of Nagercoil.

Mr. Arumukhaperumal Muthuswami (Member, Trading Classes, Kottar) represented—

(1) that the Nagercoil Committee did not spend any sum of money for improving the town,

(2) that the street lights were not sufficient in number and that the existing lamps were not being properly lit,

(3) that several lanes and pathways were in a bad condition and should be attended to,

(4) that scavenging was not being satisfactorily done and that there were irregularities in the realization of scavenging fees and house-tax,

(5) that the really poor of the artisan classes such as weavers should be exempted from T. I. C. taxes as was done in Madura, on account of their present difficulties due to war conditions, and

(6) that two or three public latrines should be put up.

In conclusion, the Member suggested that the Vice-President should be elected.

Dewan s reply.—The Member should bring to the notice of the Committee the grievances mentioned by him, as they were such as could be redressed by that body.

(2) Medical Relief.

103. Establishment of a Hospital at Kuzhithura.

Mr. R. Narayana Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Kuzhithura) submitted that his subject was an old one and that it had been brought up at several previous sessions of the Assembly. Kuzhithura was subject to fevers of different kinds and accidents were not rare. Difficulties were also experienced in *post mortem* cases for want of a Government Hospital. There was, no doubt, a Christian Mission Hospital at Martandam. But the people were too poor to pay for medicines.

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